

In the Claims:

Amend claims 7 and 21, as follows:

7. (Currently Amended) Surgical apparatus comprising an elongated cannula further comprising:

a first lumen extending within the cannula between proximal and distal ends thereof for housing an endoscope therein;

a transparent tip disposed at the distal end of the first lumen for ~~providing~~ performing tissue dissection and ~~providing~~ endoscopic visualization therethrough;

a second lumen (eccentric the first lumen/and having an open distal end positioned intermediate the proximal and distal ends of the first lumen for housing a surgical instrument therein to protrude from the open distal end for performing surgical procedures on tissue viewed through the transparent tip; and

a flexible and resilient hood having an open distal end and an open proximal end that is coupled to the distal end of the second lumen for recurring operation in a tapered transition orientation between distal and proximal ends thereof responsive to a surgical instrument being retracted within the second lumen proximally from the transparent tip, and in an expanded orientation in response to extension through the distal end

20 thereof of a surgical instrument projecting forward from the
21 open distal end of the second lumen and through the open distal
22 end of the hood.

1 13. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the hood includes
2 a tapered transition contour between distal and proximal ends thereof near the
3 location along the cannula at which the first lumen extends beyond the open distal
4 end of the second lumen to taper the sectional area of the cannula and reduce axial
5 force required to advance the cannula through tissue.

1 17. (Withdrawn) A surgical procedure using a multi-lumen cannula including a
2 first lumen extending there through between proximal and distal ends thereof and
3 having a transparent tapered tip at the distal end of the first lumen for receiving an
4 endoscope therein, and including a second lumen extending for receiving a surgical
5 instrument therein, the procedure comprising:

6 advancing the cannula to dissect tissue with the transparent tapered tip
7 under endoscopic visualization through the transparent tip;
8 selectively extending the surgical instrument out of the second lumen
9 forward of the cannula; and
10 performing the surgical procedure using the surgical instrument under
11 endoscopic visualization through the transparent tapered tip.

1 18. (Withdrawn) The procedure of claim 17 wherein the surgical tool is surgical
2 scissors, and performing the surgical procedure comprises transecting side
3 branches of a saphenous vein.

1 19. (Withdrawn) The procedure of claim 18 further comprising the steps of:
2 removing the scissors from the second lumen of the cannula;
3 inserting a cradled retractor into the second lumen of the cannula;
4 extending the retractor from the second lumen forward of the cannula
5 to cradle the vein; and
6 advancing the retractor along the vein under endoscopic visualization
7 through the transparent tip to ensure that side branches of the
8 vein have been transected.

1 20. (Withdrawn) A method of harvesting veins using a multi-lumen cannula in
2 which a first lumen houses an endoscope and has a transparent tip and a second
3 lumen houses a surgical scissors comprising:
4 advancing the cannula along a vein under endoscopic visualization;
5 dissecting tissue responsive to advancing the cannula with the
6 transparent tip;
7 responsive to viewing a sidebranch requiring transection, extending
8 the surgical scissors out of the cannula; and
9 transecting the sidebranch.

1 21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 in which the hood is
2 eccentrically disposed relative to an elongated axis of the first lumen within the
3 cannula near the distal end thereof substantially in alignment with the second
4 lumen.